

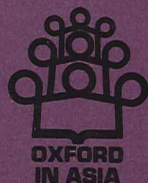
Oxford English Picture Readers Colour Edition

Grade One

Sinbad the Sailor
Aladdin and Ali Baba
Robin Hood
Gulliver's Travels
King Arthur and his Knights
Jason and the Golden Fleece
Stories from Aesop
Don Quixote
Hercules
Marco Polo
Christopher Columbus
The Swiss Family Robinson
The Three Musketeers

Grade Two

Lorna Doone
Robinson Crusoe
Treasure Island
Jane Eyre
David Copperfield
Great Expectations
Around the World in Eighty Days
Kidnapped

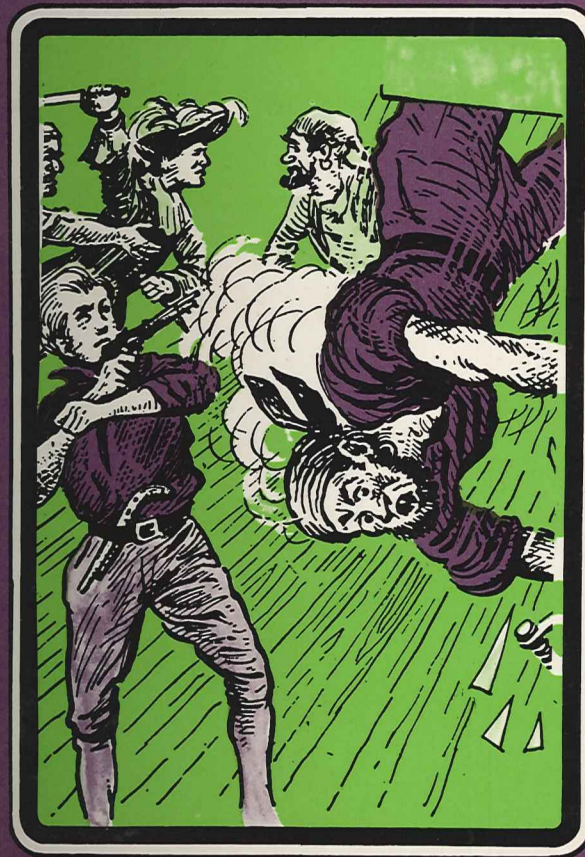


Oxford University Press

ISBN 0 19 581143 7

KIDNAPPED

KIDNAPPED



OXFORD

OXFORD ENGLISH PICTURE READERS
COLOUR EDITION

ebooksgallery.com



DAVID BALFOUR

UNCLE EBENEZER

JAMES STEWART

CLUNY

RED FOX

CAPTAIN HOSEASON

ALAN BRECK

MR. RANKEILLOR

THE BELT OF GOLD

OXFORD ENGLISH PICTURE READERS
COLOUR EDITION

KIDNAPPED

by R.L. STEVENSON

Retold by GWENDOLINE DUN

Illustrated by COLIN GIBSON



HONG KONG
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
KUALA LUMPUR SINGAPORE TOKYO

Oxford University Press

OXFORD LONDON GLASGOW

NEW YORK TORONTO MELBOURNE AUCKLAND

KUALA LUMPUR SINGAPORE HONG KONG TOKYO

DELHI BOMBAY CALCUTTA MADRAS KARACHI

NAIROBI DAR ES SALAAM CAPE TOWN

and associated companies in

BEIRUT BERLIN IBADAN MEXICO CITY NICOSIA

© *Oxford University Press* 1962

First colour edition 1971

Sixth impression 1983

OXFORD is a trademark of *Oxford University Press*

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of Oxford University Press.

ISBN 0 19 581143 7

Contents

Chapter	Page
1. DAVID LEAVES HOME	7
2. THE HOUSE OF SHAWS	10
3. THE TOWER	15
4. DAVID GOES TO QUEENSFERRY	21
5. THE 'COVENANT'	30
6. DAVID MEETS ALAN BRECK STEWART	35
7. THE FIGHT IN THE ROUND-HOUSE	41
8. ALAN'S STORY	47
9. THE SHIPWRECK	53
10. THE SILVER BUTTON	56
11. THE MURDER OF THE RED FOX	65
12. DAVID MEETS JAMES STEWART OF THE GLENS	72
13. ALAN SENDS A MESSAGE	77
14. CLUNY'S CAGE	85
15. THE QUARREL	92
16. THEY COME TO THE LOWLANDS	99
17. DAVID SPEAKS TO MR. RANKEILLOR	106
18. THE END OF THE STORY	114
NOTES	122

*Printed in Hong Kong by Bright Sun Printing Press Co. Ltd.
Published by Oxford University Press, Warwick House, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong*

At the end of this book you will find notes giving the meaning of some of the words you may not know, and a map to help you to follow David's journey.



CHAPTER I

David leaves Home

One morning, early in the month of June 1751, David Balfour left home for the last time.

David was seventeen years old. He had lived in a small village with his mother and father all his life. Now they were both dead, and David was going away to look for work.



As David walked through the village, he saw the minister, Mr. Campbell, waiting at his gate to say good-bye.

'I will walk with you as far as the river, David,' Mr. Campbell said. 'I have something to tell you. Your father asked me to give you this letter and tell you to go to the House of Shaws.'

'The House of Shaws!' cried David. 'Where is the House of Shaws?'

'It is near Cramond, not far from Edinburgh,' replied the Minister. 'The family who live there have the same name as you, Balfour.'

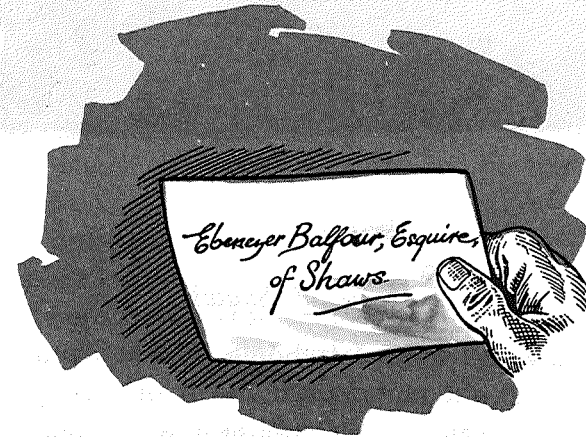
The letter was addressed to Ebenezer Balfour, Esquire, of Shaws.

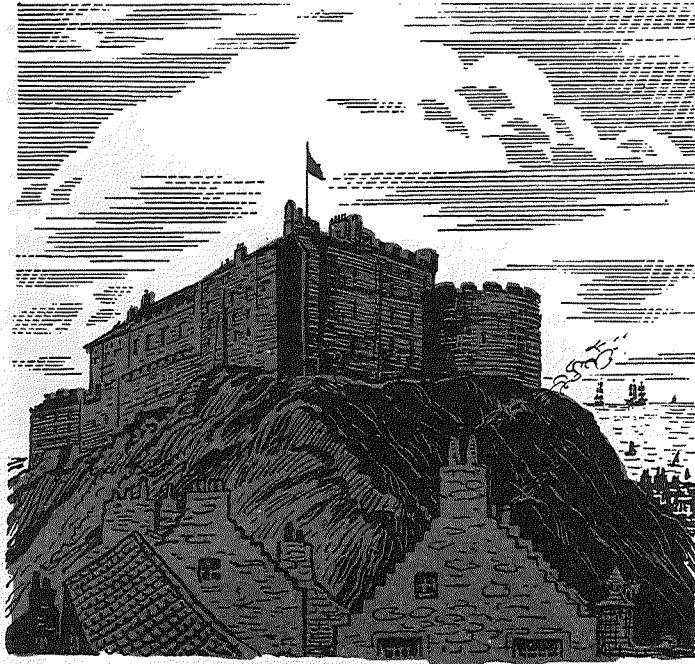
David was very excited. The Balfours of Shaws sounded very rich and grand.

'You must go at once,' said Mr. Campbell. 'A strong boy like you can walk to Cramond in two days. If the Balfours of Shaws send you away, come back to my house.'

The kind Minister gave David some money his father had left, a small Bible, and a shilling piece. He hugged David very hard and said good-bye.

David was sorry to say good-bye to his old friend. But it was an adventure to be going to the House of Shaws! He set off across the river in high spirits.





CHAPTER 2

The House of Shaws

Two days after he left home, David came to the top of a hill and looked down on the great city of Edinburgh. All the chimneys were smoking. The flag was flying on Edinburgh Castle. Farther away, David could see ships in the Firth of Forth.



A shepherd told David how to get to Cramond. At Cramond he asked the way to the House of Shaws.

A few hours later, near sunset, he met an old woman.

'I am looking for the House of Shaws,' he said.

The old woman pointed to a house not far away.

'There is the House of Shaws!' she cried. 'Bad luck to it!' She spat on the ground and hurried away.

David looked at the house. There was no road to it. No smoke came from the chimneys. Nobody could be seen near it.



After a long time David saw a wisp of smoke rise from one chimney. Someone was there! He followed a faint track in the grass leading to the house. There was no roof at one end of the house. There was no glass in the windows. Bats flew in and out.

It was almost dark. David began to feel frightened. This house was not very grand.

He went up to the front door, which was a big, heavy one, and knocked on it. Nothing happened.

David knocked again. Nobody came to the door.



David became angry. He kicked and banged on the door and shouted for Mr. Balfour.

A window above him opened. An old man in a nightcap leaned out. He pointed a gun at David. 'This gun is loaded!' he shouted.

'I have come with a letter for Mr. Ebenezer Balfour of Shaws,' cried David. 'Is he here?'

'Put it down on the doorstep and go away,' replied the old man.

David was furious. 'I was told to give this letter to Mr. Balfour,' he said angrily. 'I am David Balfour.'

The old man was surprised and frightened. 'I'll let you in,' he said.

KIDNAPPED



The door was opened at last. 'Go into the kitchen,' the old man said. 'Don't touch anything.'

He locked and bolted the door. David went along a dark passage to the kitchen. The light of the fire was the only light. A table was set for supper with a bowl of porridge, a horn spoon, and a cup of beer.

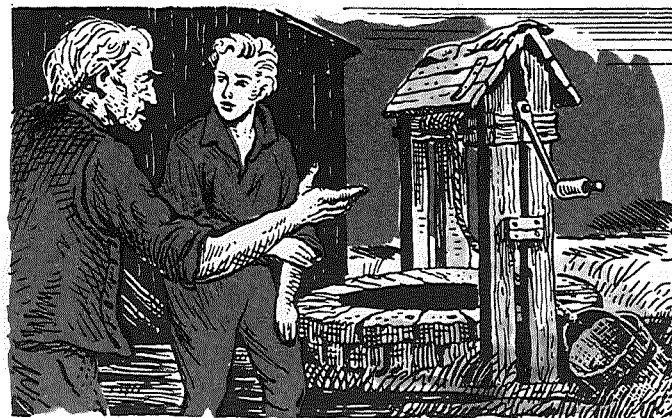
The old man came back. He was wearing a flannel nightshirt.

'If you are hungry,' he said to David, 'you can eat the porridge. There is water to drink if you are thirsty.'

He drank the beer himself.

'Is your father dead?' he asked David. 'I am his brother, Ebenezer Balfour. I am your uncle. Give me the letter.'

THE TOWER



CHAPTER 3

The Tower

Uncle Ebenezer took David upstairs to a bedroom for the night. The bed was so damp that David slept on the floor.

He woke early next morning. The bedroom was very dirty, and the windows were broken. Uncle Ebenezer had locked the door. David knocked and shouted till his uncle came to let him out.

Uncle Ebenezer took him to the back of the house. He pointed to a well.

'You can wash here,' he said.



After breakfast, Uncle Ebenezer said to David, 'I'll do my best to help you, but you must not leave the House of Shaws, or write letters to your friends.'

David was very angry when he heard this.

'I would rather go away,' he cried.

'No, no,' said his uncle. 'Stay here for a day or two.'

'Very well then,' replied David, 'I will stay.'

He went to his bedroom and tried to clean it out. He swept the floor and hung the bedclothes out of the window in the sunshine.



Uncle Ebenezer spoke very little to David for the rest of the day. But he watched him all the time.

They had porridge for breakfast, porridge for dinner, and porridge for supper. David's uncle was a miser. He hated spending money. He ate nothing but porridge, and drank nothing but beer.

At supper time, Uncle Ebenezer said to David, 'Will you go to the tower at the end of the house for me? Here is the key. Go up the stairs and bring down the chest that is at the top.'

'Can I have a light?' asked David.

'No,' said his uncle. 'Keep close to the wall. You will be quite safe.'

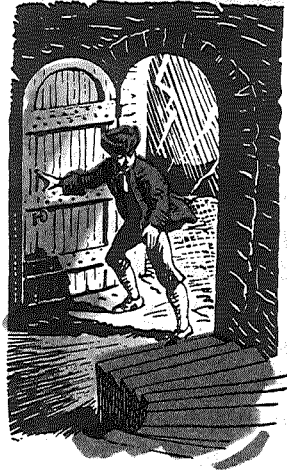
David took the key and went outside. A storm was coming, and it was very dark. As David opened the door to the tower, a flash of lightning lit up everything.

After the flash, it was so dark inside the tower that David had to feel his way to the stairs. He climbed them slowly, with one hand on the wall.

He climbed higher and higher and still he did not come to the top. It was not quite so dark now, and David wondered why.

Suddenly another great flash of lightning lit up the whole tower. David saw that there were no more stairs in front of him. If he had taken another step, he would have fallen to the ground and been killed. The staircase had never been finished.

David stood quite still, trembling all over. It was dark again now, and bats were flying round his head. He knew that Uncle Ebenezer had tried to kill him!



KIDNAPPED

This made him so angry that he stopped being frightened. He turned and felt his way carefully down the stairs.

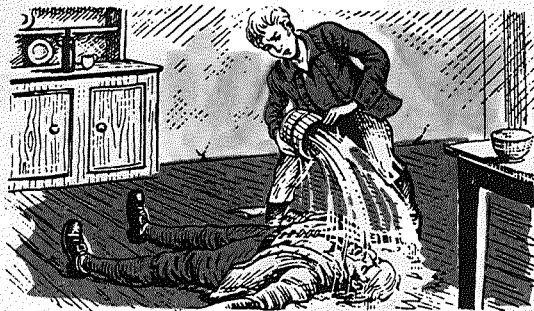
It was raining hard outside when David left the tower. There was another flash of lightning, and he saw his uncle standing outside the house, listening.

Then there was a loud crash of thunder, and Uncle Ebenezer ran into the house.

David ran after him and tapped him on the shoulder. His uncle got such a fright that he fell down in a faint.

David threw water on his face. The old man opened his eyes, but he could not speak. David helped him to his bed and locked him in his room.

Then he found an old Highland dirk to use as a weapon. He built up a big fire in the kitchen and fell asleep in front of it.



DAVID GOES TO QUEENSFERRY



CHAPTER 4

David goes to Queensferry

The next morning, David bathed in the stream near the house before he went to open his uncle's bedroom door.

Uncle Ebenezer was awake.

'Why did you try to kill me last night?' David cried.

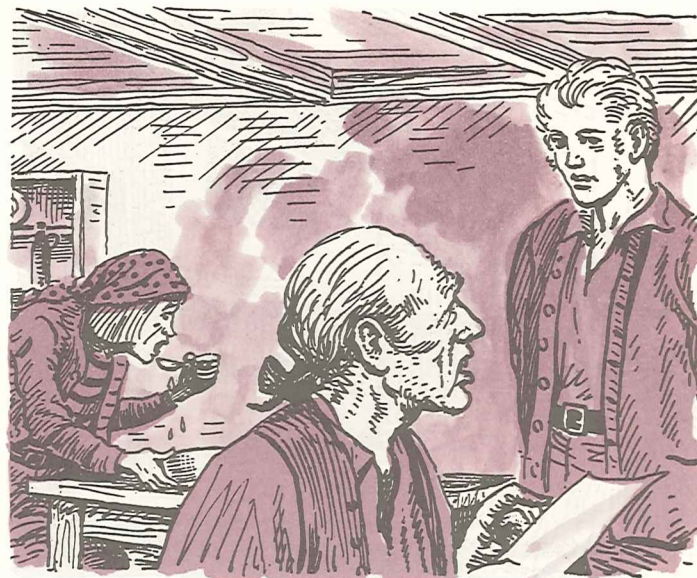


But before his uncle could answer him, someone knocked on the front door. David went to open it.

A tall thin boy dressed like a sailor was standing on the doorstep.

'I am the cabin boy of the ship *Covenant*,' he said. 'The Captain sent me with this letter to Mr. Balfour. His ship is anchored in the Firth of Forth near Queensferry, ready to sail.'

David took the letter and gave it to his uncle. The cabin boy was hungry and cold, so David gave him some porridge.

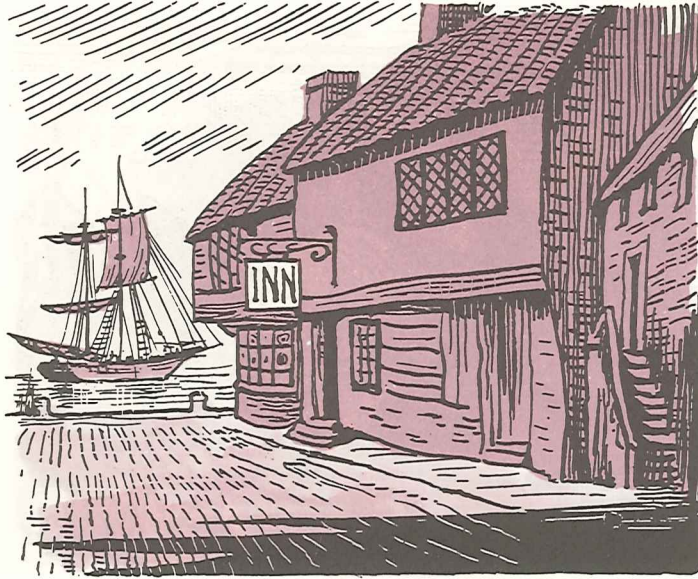


'Come to Queensferry with me, David,' said Uncle Ebenezer when he had read the letter. 'I must see Captain Hoseason there. Then I will take you to see my lawyer, Mr. Rankeillor, who lives near by. He knew your father. He will tell you that I will not harm you.'

David said to himself, 'I saw the sea for the first time yesterday. At Queensferry I'll see it again. And perhaps the lawyer who knew my father will help me.'

To his uncle he said, 'Very well. Let us go.'

KIDNAPPED



As they walked to Queensferry, Ransome, the cabin boy, told David about his life on the *Covenant*. He said that he never got enough to eat, and that Captain Hoseason and the mate, who was called Mr. Shuan, often beat him cruelly.

At Queensferry, they went to the Hawes Inn, where Captain Hoseason was staying. The *Covenant* lay half a mile out to sea. A small boat lay near the shore, waiting to take the Captain out to his ship. Ransome took David and his uncle upstairs to the Captain's room at the inn.

DAVID GOES TO QUEENSFERRY



Captain Hoseason was a tall, dark man. He wore a thick jacket and a cap drawn over his ears. The room was heated by a big coal fire, and it was very hot.

Uncle Ebenezer sat down to talk to the Captain. 'You can run out to play,' he said to David.

David did not trust his uncle. He wanted to hear what he said to Captain Hoseason. But the room was so hot that he was glad to go outside.



David walked down to the beach in front of the inn. It was covered with seaweed, which David had never seen before. The air smelled salty and exciting. But the sailors waiting in the *Covenant's* boat looked rough and wicked.

Ransome ran up to David.
 'I want something to drink,' he said.
 'We'll have some ale in the inn,' replied David.
 They went into the inn and had some ale and something to eat.



The landlord of the inn came to speak to them. 'Do you know Mr. Rankeillor, the lawyer?' asked David.

'Yes,' replied the landlord. 'He is an honest man. Are you with Mr. Ebenezer Balfour?'

'I am,' answered David. 'Nobody seems to like him.'

'He's a wicked old man,' said the landlord. 'People say that he murdered his brother Alexander.'

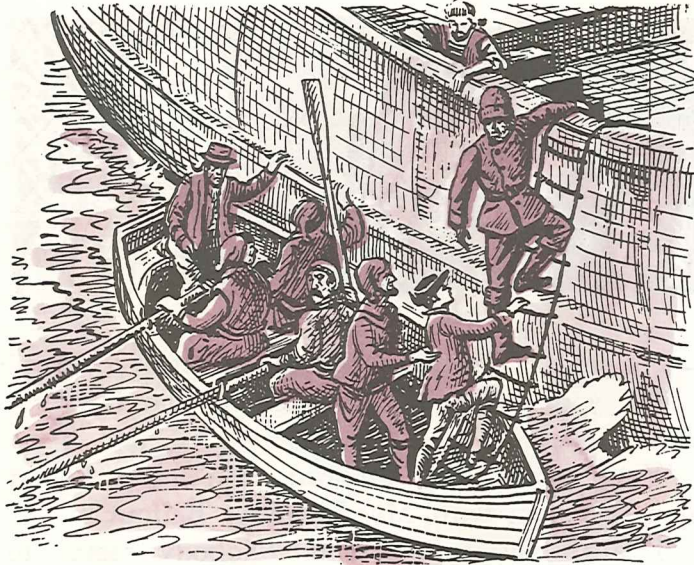
'Why should he do that?' asked David.

'Because he wanted the House of Shaws,' the landlord said. 'Alexander was the oldest son, and so the House of Shaws belonged to him.'

David said to himself, 'Alexander Balfour was my father. If he was the oldest son, the House of Shaws should belong to me, now that he is dead. Perhaps that is why Uncle Ebenezer tried to kill me.'

David went outside again. Captain Hoseason and his uncle were standing there.

KIDNAPPED



'Would you like to come on board my ship for half an hour before she sails?' the Captain asked David.

David was going to say, 'No,' when the Captain whispered to him, 'I must speak to you. Don't trust your uncle.'

David thought that he had found a friend.

He got into the small boat with the Captain and his uncle, and they were rowed out to the *Covenant*. The Captain climbed up a rope ladder and went on board first. David followed him.

DAVID GOES TO QUEENSFERRY



As soon as he got on board, David turned to see if his uncle was coming. But the ship's boat was rowing away, with Uncle Ebenezer still in it.

'Help, help! Murder!' David shouted.

Strong hands pulled him back from the ship's side, and something hit him on the head. He fell unconscious to the deck.

He had been kidnapped!



CHAPTER 5

The 'Covenant'

It was dark when David woke up. His head was very sore. His hands and feet were tied with rope. The *Covenant* was at sea and it rolled and tossed so much that David was seasick. He was frightened and very unhappy.

After he had been alone in the dark for hours, a lantern shone in his face. He saw a small man with green eyes and fair hair looking at him.

'How are you?' the man asked.

David could only groan. The man washed and bandaged the wound on David's head and gave him brandy and water to drink.



The green-eyed man went away, and David was left in the dark once more. There were rats all round about him, and sometimes they ran right over his face.

After a long time, the green-eyed man came back with Captain Hoseason.

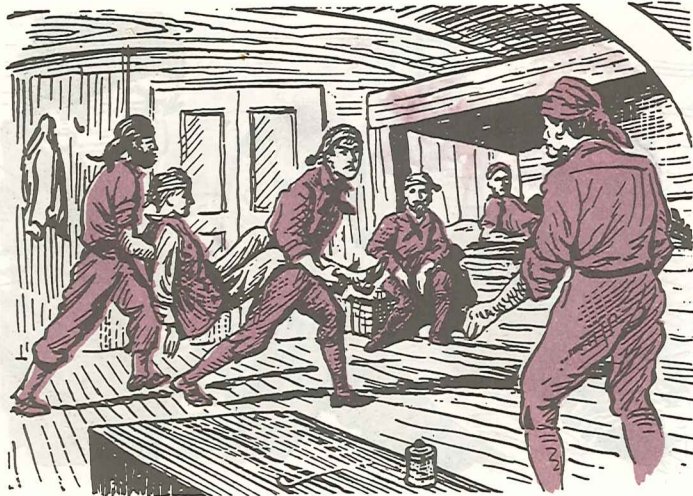
'The boy must be taken out of this hole,' he said. 'If he is left here in the dark without food he will die.'

'He will stay here!' shouted the Captain angrily.

'Were you paid to murder him?' asked the green-eyed man.

'What are you saying?' cried the Captain.

'Very well, take the boy to the fore-castle.'



Two sailors carried David up to the fore-cabin. This was a big cabin with bunks all round it, where the sailors slept when they were not on watch.

The men were rough, but they were quite kind to David. They gave him back his money, which they had stolen from him.

They told David that the *Covenant* was sailing to America. Uncle Ebenezer had sold him as a slave to work in the tobacco fields there.

David soon got better, but he was still kept prisoner. The ship was sailing round the North of Scotland. The weather was bad and the fore-cabin was kept shut all day.



The green-eyed man, who was called Mr. Riach, was kind to David and promised to help him. He and Mr. Shuan were the mates of the *Covenant*. Mr. Shuan was a good sailor, but a cruel and drunken man. He was always ill-treating Ransome, the cabin boy.

One day, David heard one of the men say, 'Shuan has murdered him at last.' Shuan had lost his temper and hit Ransome on the head so hard that he had killed him. The Captain came into the fore-cabin.

'You and Ransome are to change places,' he said to David. 'Go along to the round-house.'

KIDNAPPED



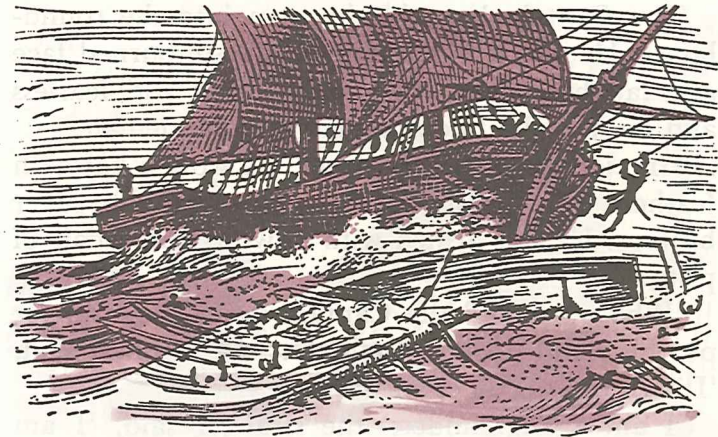
The round-house was the part of the ship where the officers lived and had their meals. As cabin boy, David had to sleep and work there.

A bench and a table were fixed to the floor, and there were two bunks. One was for the Captain, and the other was for Mr. Shuan or Mr. Riach when they were not on watch. All the best food and drink, and the guns and gunpowder were kept here.

David had to serve meals to the officers. He had to carry the food along the deck from the galley where it was cooked. At night he slept on a blanket on the floor.

Mr. Shuan was drunk nearly all the time. Everybody knew that he had murdered Ransome, and he was ashamed.

DAVID MEETS ALAN BRECK STEWART



CHAPTER 6

David meets Alan Breck Stewart

One night, after the ship had been sailing through a thick fog all day, it struck something. They had hit and sunk a small boat.

Everyone in the small boat was drowned except one man, who had been sitting in the stern. When the *Covenant* hit the boat, the stern was flung upwards. This man saved himself by leaping up and catching hold of a rope near the *Covenant's* bowsprit before the small boat sank. Then he climbed on board.

KIDNAPPED

The Captain brought the man into the round-house. He was a small man with a sunburned face and laughing eyes. He looked strong and fearless and he had the fine manners of a gentleman.

His clothes were very grand. He wore a hat with feathers, a red waistcoat, and a blue coat with silver buttons. He was armed with a sword and a pair of pistols.

'Who are you?' the Captain said. The stranger put his hand on his pistols, but the Captain said, 'It's all right. You can trust me.'

'I am a Highlander,' the stranger said. 'I am on my way to France. A French ship was waiting for me, but I have missed her in the fog and my friends have been drowned.'

He took a belt full of golden guineas from around his waist and showed them to the Captain.

'I'll pay you well if you can take me to France,' he said. 'I must not be caught in Scotland.'

'I can't do that,' replied the Captain. 'We are sailing to America. But we are very near the West coast of Scotland. I can put you ashore somewhere there.'

'Put me ashore by Loch Linnhe, then,' replied the stranger. 'I'll pay you sixty guineas.'

'Very well,' said the Captain. He went out.

David fetched the Highlander some supper. But the wine bottle was empty.

DAVID MEETS ALAN BRECK STEWART



KIDNAPPED



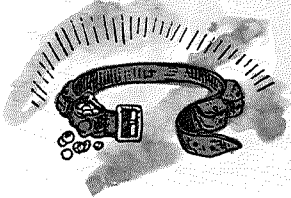
'I must have wine to drink if I am to pay sixty guineas,' said the stranger. So David ran to ask the Captain for the key of the wine cupboard.

The Captain was on deck, whispering to Mr. Shuan and Mr. Riach.

David heard Mr. Shuan say, 'Can we get him out on deck?' The Captain replied, 'He's better where he is.'

When the Captain saw David, he said, 'David, that Highlander is dangerous. If you can take some gun-powder and a pair of pistols from the round-house without his seeing you, I'll give you a share of the gold in his belt.'

He gave David the keys. David guessed that these wicked men were planning to kill the stranger and steal his gold. They had kidnapped David and killed Ransome. Now they were going to murder the man with the laughing eyes.



DAVID MEETS ALAN BRECK STEWART

David ran back to the round-house. 'Do you want to be murdered?' he gasped to the stranger. The man jumped to his feet at once. David told him what had happened.

'The whole ship's crew is against us!' he said.

'What about you? Are you on my side?' asked the stranger.

'I am,' said David. 'I am not a thief and a murderer, like the Captain and his crew!'

'What is your name?' asked the stranger.

'David Balfour, of Shaws,' replied David proudly.

'And I have a King's name,' answered the stranger. 'It is Stewart. I am Alan Breck Stewart.'

He and David shook hands.



*The Fight in the Round-House*

Alan Breck looked carefully all round him. The round-house was strongly built, with two doors, two windows, and a skylight. David started to lock both the doors, but Alan stopped him.

'We'll leave one door open, so that I can see my enemies,' he said. 'How many are against us?'

David was so frightened and excited that he had to count the numbers twice.

'Fifteen,' he said at last. Alan whistled.

'Well, that can't be helped,' he said.

He chose a cutlass, gave it to David, and handed him a bag of bullets and some gunpowder.

'Now, load all the pistols and listen to me,' he said. 'I will guard the open door. Your job is to watch through one of the windows and shoot anybody who comes near the other door. At the same time you must listen, in case anyone tries to get in by the skylight behind you.'

Then Alan drew his sword and stood ready.

'Don't shoot in my direction,' he said to David. 'I would rather have ten enemies in front of me than a friend with a pistol behind my back.'

'I have never fired a pistol before,' said David.

KIDNAPPED

At that moment, the Captain came to look for David.

'Stand back!' cried Alan and pointed his sword. 'The sooner the fight begins, the better.'

The Captain gave David an angry look and went away.

David loaded his pistols and climbed up on a bunk to look out of the window. Alan stood at the door with his sword in one hand and a dirk in the other.

Suddenly they heard a shout. Mr. Shuan was attacking Alan at the door.

'That is the man who murdered the cabin boy,' called David.

Alan Breck ran his sword right through Mr. Shuan's body and killed him.



THE FIGHT IN THE ROUND-HOUSE



At the same time, five sailors ran past the window. They carried a battering ram and tried to break down the locked door. David had never fired a pistol before, but he cried, 'Take that!' and fired into the middle of them.

He heard a scream. One of the men was hit. He fired two more shots. The rest of the men turned and ran away.

The round-house was full of smoke from the gunpowder. Alan Breck still stood by the door.

'I have killed two of them,' he cried.

'I've hit one,' said David.

'That is only three,' said Alan. 'They'll be back again!'

KIDNAPPED



David just had time to load his pistols again before the sailors came back. Some of them, who were carrying cutlasses, rushed at Alan.

At the same time another man smashed the glass of the skylight and jumped through. David shot him dead. A second man tried to come through the skylight. David shot him in the leg, and he fell on top of the first man.

Several men were attacking Alan at once. One man had got behind him and was trying to hold him back.

THE FIGHT IN THE ROUND-HOUSE



Alan gave a shout, and David ran to help him. But Alan killed with his dirk the man who held him. Then he rushed to the door, swinging his sword and driving the crowd of sailors back.

He hit and wounded a man with every swing of his sword and chased them right out on to the deck. David heard them yelling with fright and running away.

The fight was over. Three men lay dead in the round-house. Another lay dying at the door. Nearly all the others were wounded.

Alan and David were not hurt at all.

Alan went to David, put his arms round him and clapped him on the back.

'You have fought well, David!' he cried. 'Wasn't it a good fight?'

Alan made sure that all the men were dead, and pushed them out of the door, one after the other. He whistled to himself all the time, making up a tune.

'Now,' he said, 'I will take first watch tonight.'

So David tumbled into his bed on the floor, tired out after the fight, and fell fast asleep.



CHAPTER 8

Alan's Story

David slept for three hours. Then he kept watch while Alan slept. He heard the tiller banging and knew that no one was steering the ship. When Alan woke up, they were drifting near the Island of Skye.

The round-house was in a horrible mess, but they were cheerful as they ate their breakfast. They had all the best food and drink on the ship. There was little food in the forecabin, and nothing to drink but cold water.

Alan cut one of the silver buttons off his coat and gave it to David.

'That is for last night's fight,' he said. 'Wherever you go and show that button, the friends of Alan Breck will help you.'

KIDNAPPED

Mr. Riach came on deck and shouted to them. 'The Captain wants to call a truce and speak to you,' he said.

Alan agreed to this, and presently the Captain came. He looked tired and pale, and had one arm in a sling. He had been standing watch while Mr. Riach attended to the wounded.

'So many of my men are wounded that there are not enough left to sail the ship,' he said. 'I'll have to sail to Glasgow to get a new crew.'

'I must go ashore first,' said Alan.

'Mr. Shuan is dead. No one else knows this coast. Can you pilot the boat?' replied the Captain.

'I'll try,' said Alan, after a moment's thought.

'I am not a sailor, but I have landed on this coast many times.'

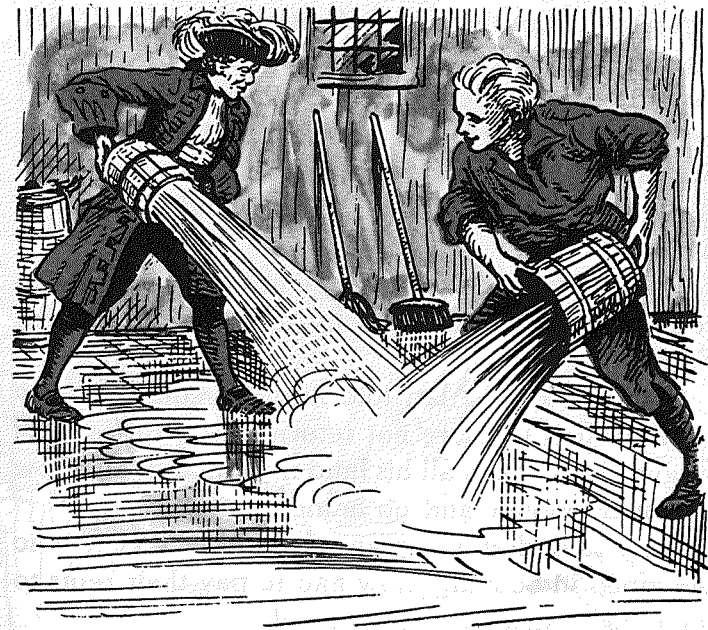


ALAN'S STORY

'Now,' said Alan, 'will you exchange two buckets of water for a bottle of brandy?'

The Captain was glad to agree, so David and Alan were able to wash out the round-house with the water.

Alan still wanted to go ashore at Loch Linnhe, and they had a long sail to get there. The Captain said it was too dangerous to go the quickest way, through the Sound of Mull, so they were sailing right round the Island of Mull.



When the round-house had been cleaned out, David and Alan sat in the door-way in the sunshine.

David told Alan how he had gone to the House of Shaws, how his uncle had tried to kill him, and how he had tricked him into coming on board the *Covenant*.

Then Alan told David his story.

'I am a Stewart of Appin,' he said. 'My father was the best swordsman in the Highlands, but he was not rich. I had to join the King's Army to make a living. In 1745, at the Battle of Prestonpans, I deserted from the King's Army to fight for Bonnie Prince Charlie. I became a Jacobite, as the Prince's supporters are called. When the Prince was defeated I fled to France with the Chieftain of my clan, Stewart of Ardshiel. If the redcoats (as we call the King's soldiers) catch me in Scotland, I shall be hanged.'

David asked, 'If it is dangerous for Jacobites to come back to Scotland, why did you not stay in France?'

'I have come,' Alan told him, 'to collect money for Ardshiel. He dare not return from France. The English have taken all his land in Scotland, and now he has no money and no home.'

Alan said that the men of Ardshiel's clan who remained in Scotland now had to pay their rents to the King, instead of to their chief.

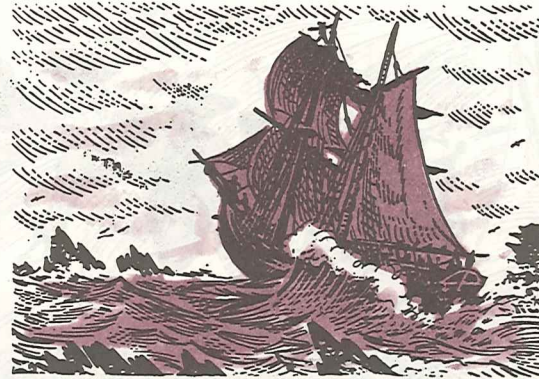


But many of them collected money for their chief as well. This was the money in Alan's belt, and he was taking it to France for Ardshiel.

'Ardshiel's brother, James Stewart of the Glens, collects the money,' said Alan, 'but the Red Fox, Colin Campbell of Glenure, is trying to stop him. The Campbells have always been enemies of the Stewarts, and Colin Campbell hates Ardshiel. Colin is called the Red Fox, because he has red hair and cunning ways.'

'How do you manage to get in and out of Scotland when the Highlands are guarded by so many soldiers?' asked David.

'It is quite easy,' replied Alan. 'In the Highlands I have many friends to help me, who will never betray me. A Highlander never betrays a friend.'



CHAPTER 9

The Shipwreck

In the middle of the night, the Captain wakened Alan.

'The ship is in danger!' he said. 'Can you pilot us?'

Alan suspected a trick, but the Captain had told the truth. It was very cold and there was bright moonlight. There were dangerous rocks all round about them.

'We are at the south-west corner of Mull,' said the Captain. 'I have no charts showing a safe way through these rocks.'

'These must be the Torran Rocks,' said Alan. 'There are ten miles of them. We shall be safer if we sail closer to the land.'

KIDNAPPED



The Captain gave orders to steer inland.

'I hope I am right, David,' whispered Alan.

The Captain steered the ship this way and that to keep away from the rocks, and brought the *Covenant* round the south-west end of the Island of Mull. Mr. Riach, who had climbed up to the mast-head to keep a look-out, called that he could see no more rocks ahead.

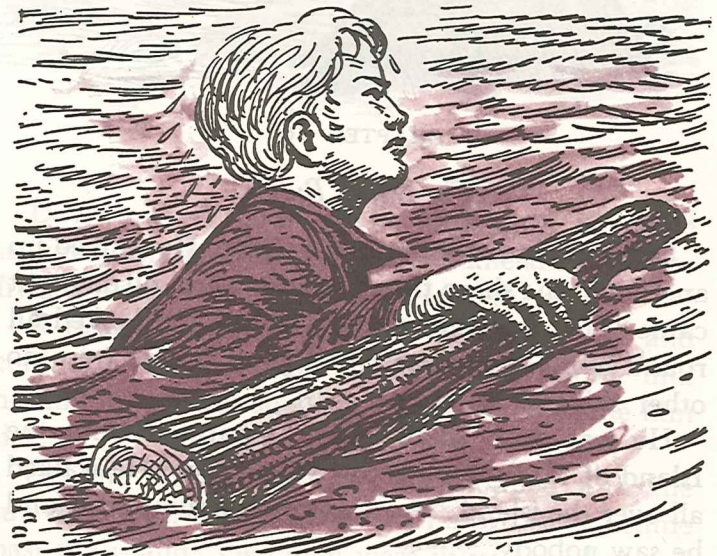
At that moment, a strong current hit the ship and drove it sideways against a hidden rock with such force that everybody on deck was knocked down.

Then a huge wave broke over the ship so suddenly that David was swept off the deck and into the sea.

THE SHIPWRECK

The waves carried David farther and farther from the ship. At last he was swept into calm water. He saw land ahead. He could not swim, but he managed to get hold of a piece of wood. This kept him afloat, and by kicking with his legs he was able to reach the shore.

He was quite alone, but he was lucky to be alive.





CHAPTER 10

The Silver Button

David was very wet and very cold. He walked up and down the shore trying to keep warm till daylight came. Then he climbed a small hill and looked all round him. The *Covenant* had gone. There were no other ships to be seen.

He was on a small island, separated from the Island of Mull by a narrow strip of sea. He walked all over the island. There were no houses on it and he saw nobody.

He tried to wade across to Mull, but the sea was too deep. He could not swim. He was marooned!



By the fourth day David had given up all hope of being rescued. Then he saw the small boat to the east of the island. He waved and shouted. David was so disappointed that he sat down and wept.

David was on the island for three days. He could see smoke on the Island of Mull and he knew it came from houses, but he could not get to them.

It rained so much that he was always wet and cold. He became very hungry and could find nothing to eat but shellfish, which often made him sick.

On the third day, the rain stopped and the sun came out. A small boat with a brown sail came past the island. Two men were in it. David waved and shouted, but it did not stop. David was so disappointed that he sat down and wept.



By the fourth day, David had given up all hope of being rescued. Then he saw the small boat coming back again. There were three men in it now. The third man stood up and shouted, pointing to the other side of the island.

David ran in the direction the man had pointed. There was now very little water in the place where the sea had been too deep for him to cross before. He jumped over it and landed on the Island of Mull at last.

He had not known that, twice a day, when the tide went out, the sand between the small island and Mull was almost dry. He need not have starved for three days!



David set off towards the smoke he had seen from the island. After a long and weary walk, he came to a small house. An old man sat outside, smoking his pipe in the sunshine.

He told David that the *Covenant* had sunk. The sailors who got ashore had been in his house the day before.

Then he asked, 'Are you the boy with the silver button?'

'I am,' said David. He felt very happy, for he knew that Alan was safe. He showed the button to the old man.



'Your friend told me to look for you,' the old man said. 'You must follow him to a place called Torosay, where a ferry boat crosses to the mainland of Scotland.'

He invited David into his house. He and his wife were very poor, but they gave David all they had to eat and drink. They allowed him to sleep there all night. But they would not take any money.

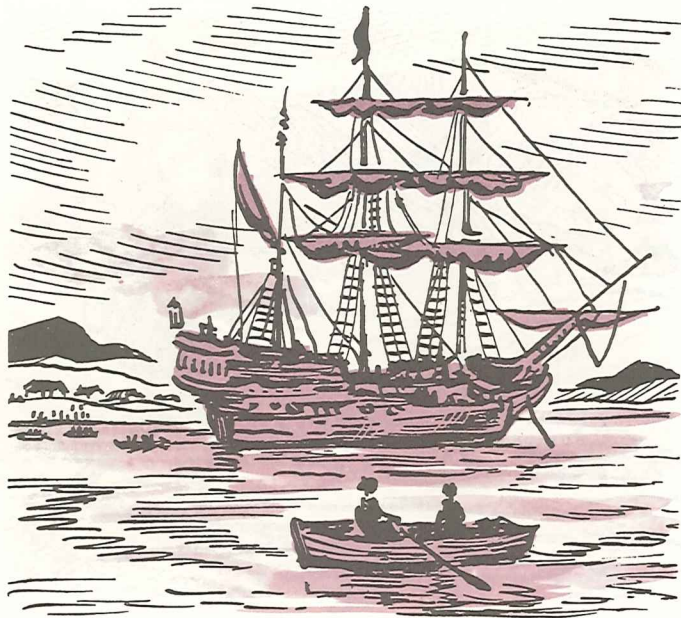


David woke up late next morning. At midday he set off to walk the fifty miles to Torosay.

The country he walked through was wild and lonely. The people he met were very poor. They did not speak English, and David could not understand their language, which was called Gaelic.

He often lost his way, and once a man tried to steal his money. Four days after he left the island, he came to Torosay and spent the night in the inn.

KIDNAPPED



The next morning, David crossed from Mull in a ferry boat to the mainland of Scotland.

The ferry boat was small and took a long time to cross. On the way, they passed a big ship at anchor. Small boats were carrying a crowd of people from the shore to the ship. They were people who had been turned out of their homes and were going to live in America.

They were all unhappy to be leaving Scotland and were weeping and singing sad songs.

THE SILVER BUTTON



When the ferry boat reached the mainland, David showed the boatman the silver button. He asked him if he had news of Alan Breck.

'That is a name you should never say!' the ferryman cried. 'But as you are the boy with the silver button, all is well. I was told to help you.'

He told David how to go to the house of James Stewart of the Glens, the brother of Ardshiel, Alan's chief. It was a long way and there were two more lochs to cross.

KIDNAPPED

On the road the next morning, David met an old man going in the same direction. He was called Mr. Henderland and he knew David's friend, Mr. Campbell, the minister.

As they walked together, Mr. Henderland talked to David about the Highlands. He knew all about Alan Breck, and how he came over from France to get money for the chief of his clan, Ardshiel.

He said that the King's soldiers had never been able to catch Alan. But Colin Campbell, the Red Fox, was so angry with the people who helped Ardshiel, that he was coming with soldiers to turn them out of their homes. He was already on his way.



THE MURDER OF THE RED FOX



CHAPTER II

The Murder of the Red Fox

Mr. Henderland lived in a little house on the shore of Loch Linnhe. David slept at his house that night. In the morning, Mr. Henderland found a man who was taking a boat out fishing. He asked him to row David across to Appin, on the other side of the loch. This saved two ferry crossings and made David's journey a whole day shorter.

On the way across, David saw soldiers in red coats on the hills opposite.

'These are the redcoats,' said the fisherman. 'They are going to turn the Stewarts of Appin out of their homes.'



At the other side of the loch, David sat down to rest in a wood. He was now in Alan Breck's country!

He heard the sound of horses. Four men came towards him, leading their horses. A big man with red hair came first. He was followed by a lawyer and two other men.

David stood up and asked the red-haired man the way to the house of James Stewart of the Glens. The red-haired man looked at David in surprise.

'Why do you want to go there?' he asked.

Suddenly David knew that he was speaking to Colin Campbell, the Red Fox!



The Red Fox said, 'If you had asked me the way to James Stewart's house on any other day, I would have told you gladly. But today . . .'

He did not finish speaking, for a shot rang out. The Red Fox clapped a hand to his chest and fell down dead.

David looked up to the hillside and saw a big man in a black coat running away, carrying a gun.

'The murderer! The murderer!' he cried and began to run after the man.



David had run quite a long way when someone called to him to stop. It was the lawyer. Some soldiers came out of the wood. 'Catch that boy!' the lawyer shouted to them. 'He was paid to stop us here!'

David was so surprised that he did not know what to do. The soldiers were running up the hill after him.

'Come in here among the trees,' said a voice close by. David did so and saw Alan Breck standing among the trees with a fishing rod.



The soldiers began firing their guns. 'Come,' Alan said to David. He started to run very fast along the hill. David did not know what to do, so he followed him.

Alan ran at full speed, sometimes behind the trees, sometimes bending low among the heather. Sometimes he stopped and stood up straight. Each time he did so the soldiers following them shouted and ran after them more quickly.

David got very out of breath, but he kept on running. Then Alan stopped and said, 'Now, do as I do,' and turned round. He bent low and ran faster than ever back to the wood they had started from. This time he did not let the redcoats see him, and they got back safely.



They threw themselves down panting. They were too out of breath to speak. At last, Alan said, 'That was a hard run!'

David did not answer him. He thought that Alan had been in the plot to murder the Red Fox. He did not want to think that his friend was a murderer. But Alan knew what he was thinking.

'Do you think I would help to murder a man in my own country, where I would bring trouble to my friends?' he asked.

'But you let the soldiers see you,' David cried, 'so that they would not chase the man with the gun.'

'He would have done the same for me,' said Alan, 'if I had been in his place.'

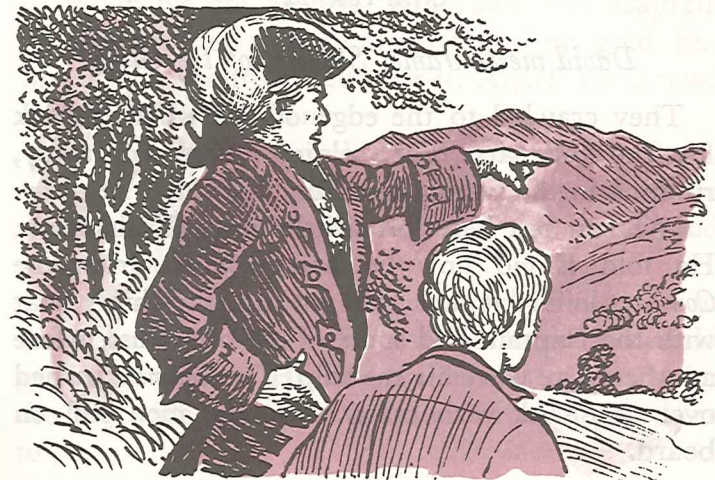
David said no more.

'We must get away from Appin,' Alan said. 'The Red Fox's friends think you were paid to help the murderer, and I dare not be caught by the redcoats.'

'I am not afraid of being caught,' said David. 'I had nothing to do with the murder.'

'Nobody will believe you, David,' said Alan. 'We shall not be safe till we reach the Lowlands. We must get there without being seen. We shall have to go into hiding. We must travel at night and sleep in the day-time. We'll often have to sleep outside and we'll often be cold and hungry. But it will be better than being hanged.'

David wanted to get back to Queensferry, so he said, 'I'll go with you, Alan.'





CHAPTER 12

David meets James Stewart of the Glens

They crawled to the edge of the wood to look for the redcoats. The soldiers were far away, running in the wrong direction.

'We can rest here for a little longer,' said Alan. He told David how he had escaped from the *Covenant* before it sank. He got into the ship's boat with the Captain and some of the crew just before another huge wave hit the ship. The *Covenant* turned over and sank with many wounded men still on board.

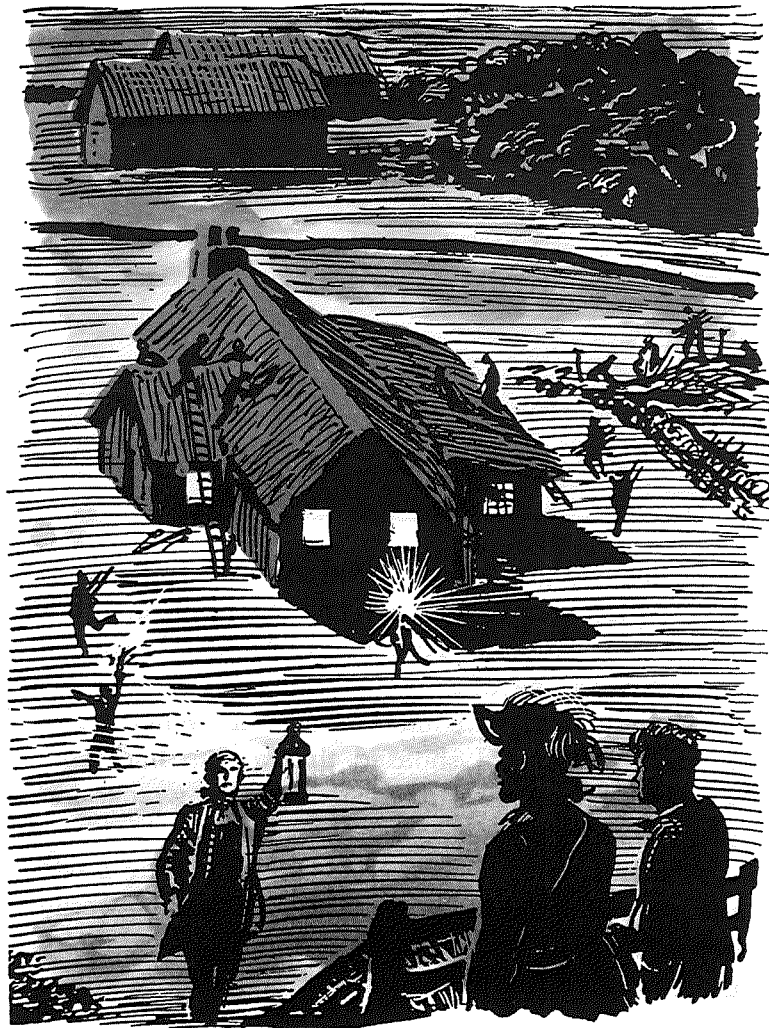


'When we got ashore,' said Alan, 'the Captain ordered his men to seize me and steal my gold. But Mr. Riach shouted, 'Run for it, Alan!' He started a fight with the men.

'I ran as fast as I could,' said Alan. 'When I saw someone coming, I shouted that a ship had been wrecked. They all rushed to see the wreck and forgot to look at me.'

Alan said that he had seen David holding on to the piece of wood in the sea, and he hoped he would get safely ashore. He told his friends to watch for the boy with the silver button and tell him where to go.

KIDNAPPED



DAVID MEETS JAMES STEWART OF THE GLENS

When Alan finished telling his story, he and David set off for the house of James Stewart of the Glens. Alan had left some clothes there and he hoped to borrow money for their journey. He had given the belt full of gold to a friend who could be trusted to take it safely to Ardshiel. He had very little money of his own.

It was dark when they came to James Stewart's house. All the lights were on. Men were hurrying about outside, carrying lighted torches. Some were pulling guns and swords out of the thatched roof of the house. Others were digging holes in the fields and burying these weapons.

Alan whistled softly three times. All the men seemed to know the signal, and stopped work. A tall, handsome man came to meet them. He was James Stewart of the Glens.

Alan told James that he and David had seen the murder of the Red Fox.

'The redcoats saw us there,' he said. 'We need your help.'

James Stewart was very frightened.

'The Campbells will think I murdered the Red Fox,' he said. 'I shall get into trouble for helping you, even if they don't blame me for the murder. Whatever I do, they'll hang me. You can't stay here. The redcoats will come very soon. That is why we are hiding all our weapons.'

KIDNAPPED

'Give me my clothes, then,' said Alan, 'and we'll leave at once.'

James gave Alan his clothes back, and one of his sons gave some clothes to David.

Then James gave each of them a pair of pistols, a sword, and some bullets and gunpowder. They also got a bag of oatmeal, an iron pan, and a bottle of brandy. But James could not give them any money.

Alan and David had very little money left. James Stewart promised to send them money later. They must send a message to let him know where they were.

David and Alan thanked him and said good-bye. They set off towards the east.



ALAN SENDS A MESSAGE



CHAPTER 13

Alan sends a Message

It was a warm, dark night. Sometimes David and Alan walked. Sometimes they ran.

'We must get away from here as quickly as we can,' Alan said to David.

But every time they came to a house, Alan knocked on the windows and told the people inside that the Red Fox had been murdered. He warned everybody that the redcoats would soon be everywhere, looking for the murderer.

Alan and David walked as fast as they could all that night. But it began to get light while they were still far from a good hiding place. They came to a wild and rocky valley. A deep, fast-flowing river ran through it. Alan said it was the Valley of Glencoe. He looked all around.

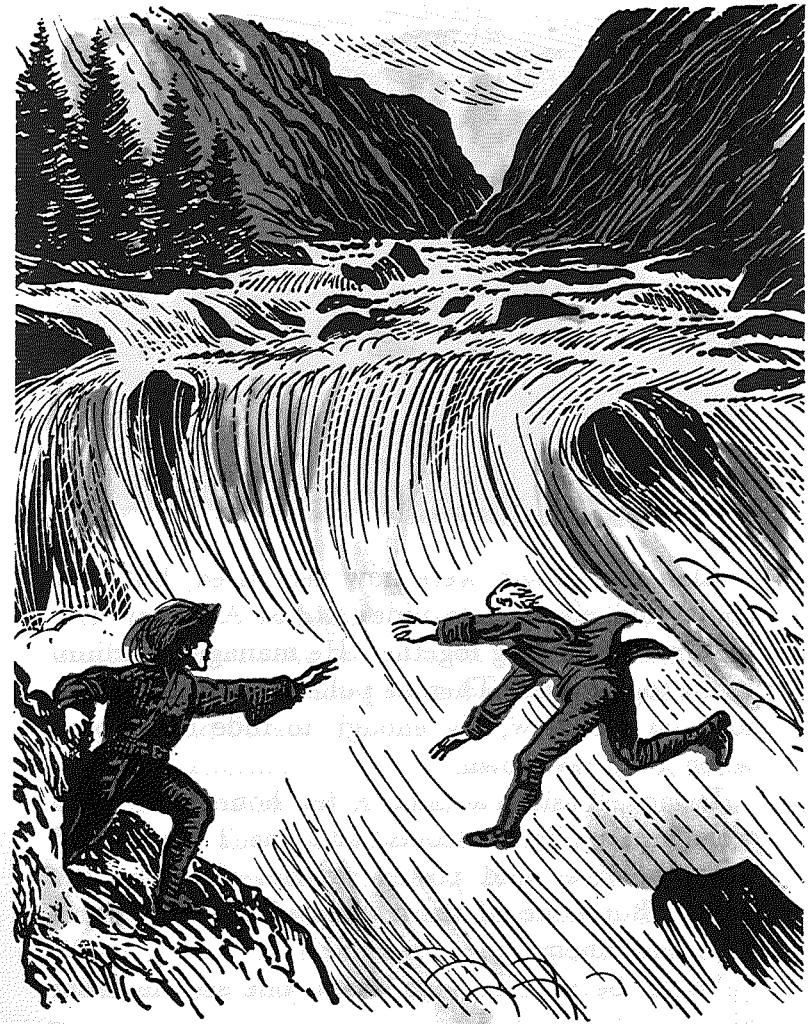
'This is no place for you and me,' he said. 'It is a place the redcoats are sure to watch.'

He ran down to the river. Below a waterfall he saw a big rock in the middle, with deep water flowing past it on either side. Alan did not stop. He jumped straight on to the rock, and dropped on his hands and knees so that he would not fall off it.

David ran after him and jumped on to the rock too. Alan caught him and held him safely. The river rushed past them on both sides with a noise like thunder. The rock was wet and slippery. They must jump a long way across the deep water to get to the other side of the river.

David was terrified and could not move. Alan took him by the arm and shouted in his ear, 'Hang or drown!' Then he made a great leap and reached the other side.

David leaped after him, but his feet slipped on the bank and he fell back into the water. Alan caught him by his hair and his collar and pulled him out. He started running again and David followed as fast as he could.



KIDNAPPED



Alan and David were now very tired, but they could find nowhere to hide. At last Alan saw two high rocks standing together. He managed to climb to the top of them. Then he pulled David up. At the top was a hollow, big enough to hide them both when they lay down.

David fell asleep at once. A few hours later, Alan woke him up. The redcoats had come. They camped near the river and posted sentries all along the valley. But none of them climbed the mountains all round them.

'We'll be safe, so long as no one sees us from above,' whispered Alan.

ALAN SENDS A MESSAGE



As the sun rose higher it became very hot. There was no shade on the rock. David and Alan had to lie in the sun all day. They were badly sunburned and very hot and thirsty.

In the afternoon, they could bear it no longer. They climbed down from the rock. Crawling on their hands and knees, and hiding behind rocks in the valley, they passed the soldiers without being seen. They reached a stream and drank thirstily. When it became dark, they started walking again.

Before morning they came to a cave in a big mountain. It was safe to hide there.

KIDNAPPED



They hid in the cave for five days. It was safe to light a fire and cook hot food.

Alan carved a piece of wood into the shape of a cross. He asked David for the silver button. He tied the button to the cross, and then tied on small twigs from birch and pine trees.

'Tonight I will take this cross to the house of a friend of mine,' he said to David. 'We need his help. When he sees the button, he will know it is mine. The twigs of pine and birch will tell him that I am where these trees grow.'

'Why don't you send him a letter?' asked David.

'Because my friend can't read or write,' said Alan.

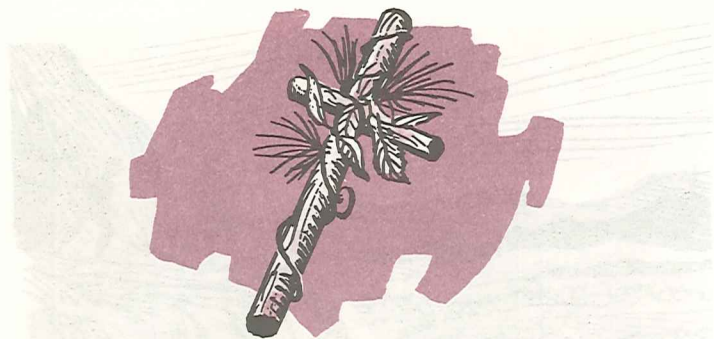
ALAN SENDS A MESSAGE



That night, Alan took the cross and left it in his friend's window. When he came back, he said they could do nothing now but wait.

In the middle of the next day, a man came up the mountain. Alan whistled to him to let him know where they were hiding. The man was poor and ragged. He was very frightened. Alan asked him to take a letter to James Stewart of the Glens.

They had neither pen nor ink. But Alan found a pigeon's feather and made a pen. He made ink by mixing gunpowder with water. He asked James to send the money he had promised.



The man returned three days later. He gave Alan a letter from James Stewart's wife. James was in prison. A hundred pounds reward was to be given to anyone who could catch David and Alan.

Mrs. Stewart sent them a purse with four guineas in it.

'It is not much,' said Alan, 'but it will do.'

He thanked his friend and told him to give the silver button back to David. Then he and David got ready to go on their journey.



CHAPTER 14

Cluny's Cage

David and Alan walked for eleven hours without stopping to rest. At daylight, they came to the Moor of Rannoch. The mist was so thick that they could not see if it was safe to go on.

'The east is the safest direction for us to go,' said Alan, 'but we have to cross this moor. It is so flat that there is nowhere to hide.'

When the mist rose, nobody was to be seen, so they started off. They had to crawl on their hands and knees. If they stood upright, the redcoats would see them from miles away.

KIDNAPPED



By midday they were exhausted and had to rest. David slept while Alan kept watch. Then Alan stuck a twig of heather into the ground. He told David to waken him when the shadow of the twig reached a certain place. But David could not keep awake. He was so tired that he fell asleep again.

When he woke up, he saw a party of soldiers on horseback coming towards them. They were searching the heather as they came.

CLUNY'S CAGE



David woke Alan, who frowned when he saw the soldiers. He did not scold David for falling asleep.

'We must go towards Ben Alder,' he said and pointed to a mountain. 'If we can get there, we may be safe.' He started off, crawling on his hands and knees towards the soldiers.

'If we don't get past them without being seen,' he whispered, 'we'll be driven back to Appin.'

Sometimes Alan and David had to crawl very slowly, or the soldiers would have seen them moving. Sometimes the soldiers were so near that they lay quite still.

After a long time they saw that the soldiers were behind them and making camp for the night.

KIDNAPPED



'Let us rest now,' said David. 'I am very tired. I cannot go any longer without sleep.'

'We dare not sleep tonight,' said Alan. 'If you can't walk any longer, I'll carry you.'

David felt ashamed and struggled on. Alan was as tired as he was. They crawled across the moor all night long. When at last it was safe to stand up and walk again, they were so exhausted that they did not look where they were going.

Suddenly three ragged men sprang out of the heather and knocked David and Alan down.

But Alan soon found that they were friends. Their chief was a famous Jacobite who had lived in hiding for many years. His name was Cluny Macpherson.

CLUNY'S CAGE



The men took David and Alan to Cluny's hiding place on Ben Alder. It was a hut high up on the mountain. It was called Cluny's Cage.

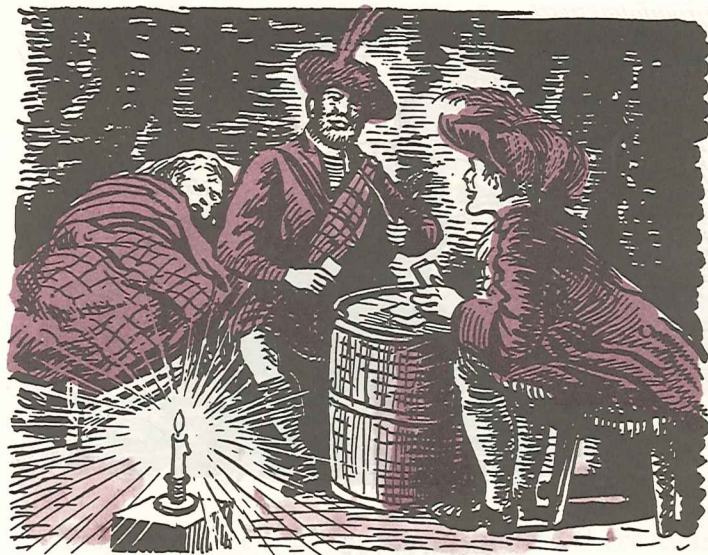
Stakes had been stuck into the ground between birch trees, and bunches of heather woven in and out of them to make walls. The walls were then covered with moss. A tree growing straight out from the mountain was part of the roof.

The rocky cliff behind Cluny's Cage was grey, so the grey smoke from the fire could not be seen from below. From a distance, it was difficult to see the hut at all.



Cluny Macpherson met them at the door of the hut. He was very plainly dressed and he was smoking a pipe. Alan was an old friend and Cluny was pleased to see him.

A good meal was ready for them, but David was too exhausted to eat. After the meal, Cluny invited them to play cards, but David begged to be allowed to go to bed. He lay down on a bed of heather and fell asleep at once. He slept most of the time they were at Cluny's Cage.



Alan played cards for money with Cluny Macpherson all the time they were in the hut. Once he wakened David to borrow some more money, and David gave him all the money he had.

After three days, David felt better. Cluny's men told them that it would now be safe to go on towards the south.

But they had no money left. Alan had lost it all playing cards!

David had to ask Cluny for his own money back. He felt very ashamed, and he was very angry with Alan.



CHAPTER 15

The Quarrel

Cluny Macpherson sent one of his men with Alan and David. He travelled with them for one day and carried their packs. The next morning he rowed them across Loch Rannoch and left them on the other side.

He showed them the safest way to go south, and told them to stay high up in the mountains.

Alan was not pleased. 'That is one of the worst parts of Scotland,' he said. 'There is nothing there but heather, crows and Campbells!'



'Yes, but there will be fewer soldiers there than anywhere else,' said the guide.

David was very angry with Alan for losing so much money playing cards. He would not speak to him. Alan was ashamed of himself, but he did not know what to say. At last he said, 'David, this is no way for friends to behave. I am sorry. I can say no more.'

But David would not listen to him. They walked on without speaking. Alan whistled and sang and pretended not to mind.

For three nights they travelled in the mountains. In the day-time they slept. The weather was cold, wet and foggy all the time.

KIDNAPPED

The sun never shone to warm and dry them. They dared not light a fire, so they had only oatmeal mixed with cold water to eat.

They could find no shelter, so they had to sleep in the open with the rain soaking into their clothes. They were wet all the time as well as cold.

David's throat became sore and he began to feel very ill. When he slept he was so cold and wet that he had bad dreams. But he was still angry with Alan and would not speak to him.

Alan never seemed to be tired. He tried to carry David's pack, but David would not let him. David began to feel sorry that he had quarrelled with Alan, but he did not want to say so. He struggled on.

On the third night the rain stopped. It became very cold. The wind blew through David's wet clothes and he felt colder still. He wished that he was dead.

He began to feel very hot one minute and very cold the next. At last his legs would carry him no longer. He fell down into the heather.

'Alan,' he said, 'if you don't help me, I think I shall die.'

Alan came to him at once. 'I should have remembered that you are just a boy,' he said.

'Lean on me and I will help you to the first house that we see.'

THE QUARREL



KIDNAPPED



'Why are you so kind to me, Alan?' asked David.
'I don't know,' said Alan, 'I thought I liked you because you never quarrelled. But now you have quarrelled, I like you even better!'

David was much taller than Alan, but Alan half carried him for many miles. At last they came to a house. Alan knocked boldly at the door. He was lucky, because the Maclarens who lived there were friends and let them come in at once.

THE QUARREL



They put David to bed at once and sent for a doctor. Luckily David was strong and healthy and soon got better. He was only in bed for a week. In a month he was well enough to travel again.

Alan would not leave David, although it was dangerous for him to stay. He hid in a wood near by during the day. At night, when nobody was about, he came to see David.

KIDNAPPED

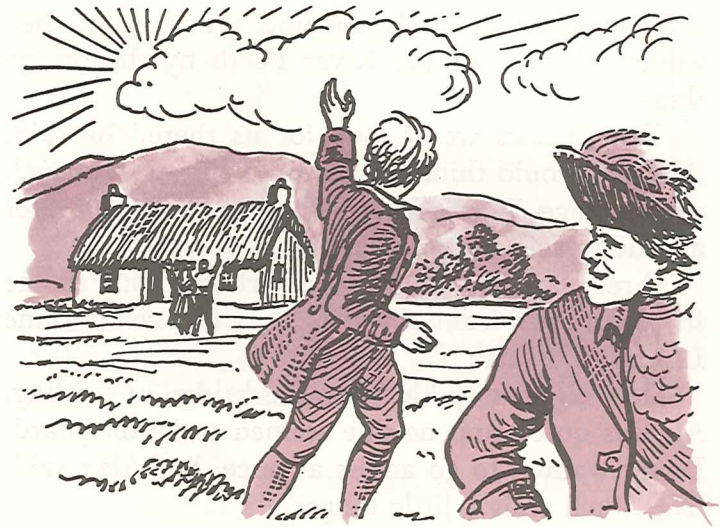
The soldiers never came to the house. But one day a party of them passed so close that David could see them from his bed. A hundred pounds had been offered as a reward to anyone who could catch David and Alan.

A poster with a description of them was pinned by David's bed, so that he could see it.

Duncan Maclaren, the owner of the house, knew who they were. He was very poor, but he never thought of betraying David and Alan to the soldiers for a hundred pounds. Many other people knew whom the Maclarens were hiding, but they all kept the secret.



THEY COME TO THE LOWLANDS



CHAPTER 16

They come to the Lowlands

David was well enough to travel again at the end of August. The weather was warm and sunny.

They had very little money left. David wanted to get back to Queensferry as soon as he could. He wanted to find Mr. Rankeillor, the lawyer who had known his father. If David was really the owner of the House of Shaws, he ought to have some money. With the money he could help Alan to escape to France.

If Mr. Rankeillor would not help them, they would starve.

KIDNAPPED

They went towards Stirling. Alan said they would try to cross the River Forth by the bridge there.

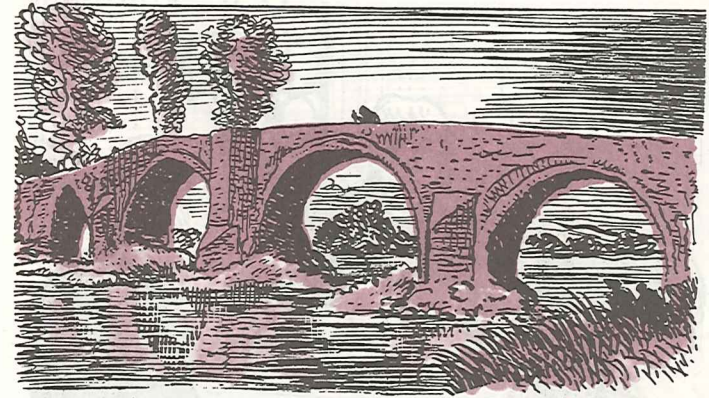
'The soldiers won't look for us there,' he said. 'Nobody would think we should try to cross at such a busy place. The soldiers will be watching the river at other places where we might cross.'

Three days later they saw Stirling Castle in the flat country in front of them. They had come to the Lowlands at last.

That night they hid near the bridge at Stirling. All was quiet, and no one seemed to be on guard. David wanted to go across at once, but Alan said, 'No. We'll wait a little longer.'



THEY COME TO THE LOWLANDS

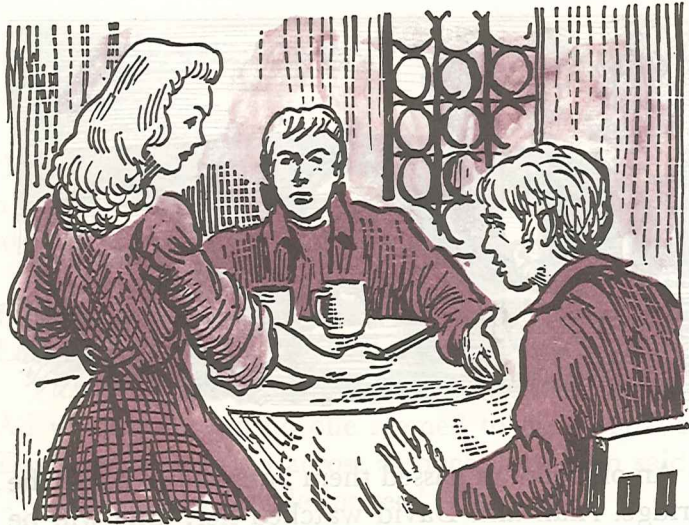


An old woman passed them and walked on to the bridge. Alan and David watched her. 'She will be across now,' whispered David when they could not see her any longer. At that moment they heard a shout of, 'Who goes?' and they knew that a sentry was guarding the other side of the bridge.

They were very disappointed. 'We'll have to find a boat,' said Alan as they crept away. They turned towards the east.

The next morning they came to the Firth of Forth, where the river enters the sea. They could see Queensferry and the Hawes Inn on the other side.

They came to a small inn and stopped to buy bread and cheese. A pretty girl served them. Alan told David to pretend to be ill.



The girl asked Alan what was wrong.

'We have been in hiding for many weeks,' said Alan, 'and we have travelled so far that my friend is exhausted. We shall not be safe until we get across the Forth. But we have no money to hire a boat.'

The girl was very sorry for them. She brought them a hot meal and told them that she could get a boat. She told them to hide in a wood near the shore till she came.

Alan and David hid in the wood all day. As the sun went down and night fell, they began to look for the girl and wonder if she would come.



She kept her word. When it was dark, she came to the shore in a rowing boat. She rowed them across the Firth of Forth and put them ashore on the south side.

Alan and David thanked her, and she rowed away as quickly as she could.

The next day, Alan stayed in hiding while David went by himself to Queensferry to look for Mr. Rankeillor.



Alan promised to go to a certain place on the road after dark and wait there till he heard David whistling. If David whistled a Highland tune, Alan would know that all was well.

David walked about Queensferry for a long time, looking at the houses. He was so dirty and his clothes were so ragged that he did not like to speak to anybody.

A kind looking gentleman came out of a house as David passed by.

'Can I help you?' he asked David, smiling.



'Can you tell me where Mr. Rankeillor, the lawyer, lives please?' David asked.

The old gentleman looked very surprised. 'I've just come out of Mr. Rankeillor's house,' he said. 'I am Mr. Rankeillor!'

'Please may I speak to you then?' cried David. 'My name is David Balfour.'

'David Balfour?' said Mr. Rankeillor in amazement. 'Where have you come from?'

CHAPTER 17

David speaks to Mr. Rankeillor

Mr. Rankeillor took David into his house, and into a room full of books and papers.

'Now,' he said, 'what is your story?'

'I think I am the owner of the House of Shaws,' David said.

Mr. Rankeillor took a paper out of a drawer. He asked David where he was born and who his father and mother were. When David told him, he nodded his head and looked pleased. Then he asked David if he had met a man called Hoseason.

'I have,' said David. 'He helped my uncle to kidnap me. They tricked me into going on board the *Covenant*. Then they knocked me down and took me prisoner. They were going to sell me as a slave to work in the tobacco fields in America.'

'The *Covenant* was wrecked, I believe?' said Mr. Rankeillor. 'Where was it sunk?'

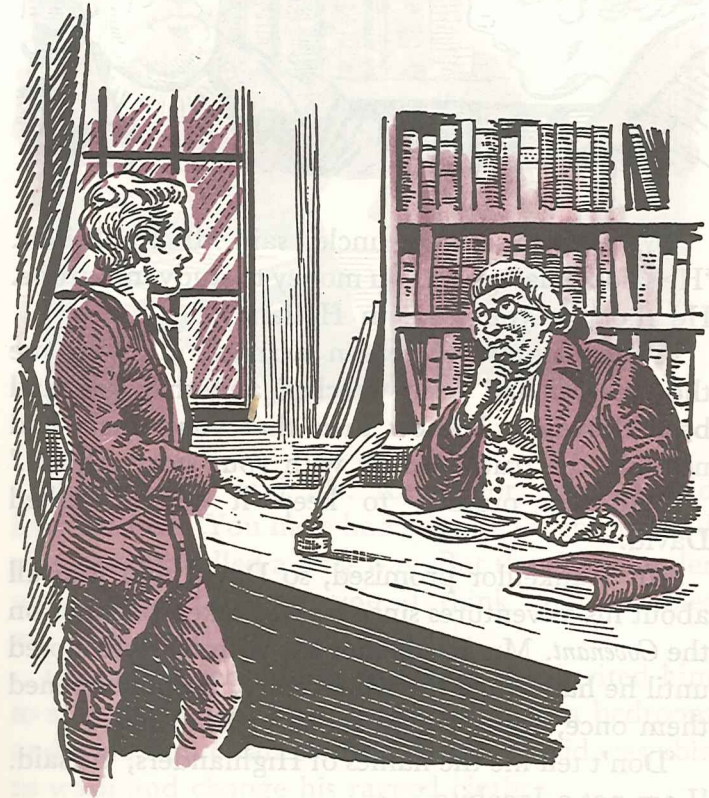
'Near the south end of Mull,' replied David. 'I was marooned on an island for three days.'

'That was two months ago,' said the lawyer. 'What have you been doing since then?'

'I can't tell you that until I know that I am talking to a friend,' said David.

DAVID SPEAKS TO MR. RANKEILLOR

'I am your uncle's lawyer,' said Mr. Rankeillor. 'But I had never heard of you until one day Mr. Campbell the minister came here. He wanted to know what had happened to you.'





'We went to see your uncle,' said Mr. Rankeillor. 'He said he had given you money to study in Europe. He thought you were in Holland.'

'Then Captain Hoseason arrived. He told me the *Covenant* had been wrecked and that you had been drowned. I knew then that your uncle had not told the truth. Go on with your story, David.'

'Will you promise to keep it secret?' asked David.

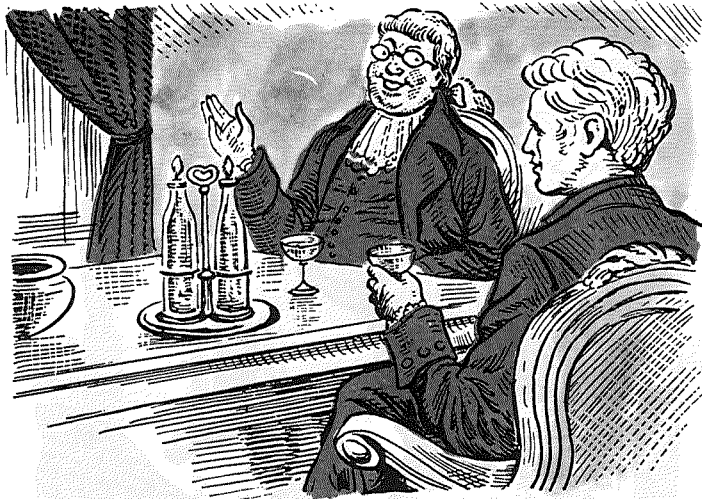
Mr. Rankeillor promised, so David told him all about his adventures since he was taken prisoner on the *Covenant*. Mr. Rankeillor sat with his eyes closed until he had heard the whole story. He only opened them once, when David spoke of Alan Breck.

'Don't tell me the names of Highlanders,' he said. 'I am not a Jacobite.'



'Well, well!' said Mr. Rankeillor, when David had finished. 'You have had a lot of adventures and you have travelled a long way. But that Highlander was a good friend to you. I think your troubles are over now!'

He smiled very kindly at David and invited him to stay to dinner. Then he took him to a bedroom and gave him clean clothes. At last David was able to wash and change his ragged clothes.



After dinner, Mr. Rankeillor told David about his father and his uncle.

‘When they were young, your father and your uncle were handsome men,’ he said. ‘They fell in love with the same lady. There was a terrible quarrel, because the lady loved your father best. In the end your father married the lady, and your uncle took the House of Shaws. Your father went away and never saw your uncle again.’

‘Your father was older than your uncle and the House of Shaws must go from father to son, so it is yours, David. But your uncle will not give it up. If he knows you are wanted for murder, he will betray you. He would be glad to see you hanged.’



‘I have a plan,’ said David. ‘We’ll make my uncle say that he had me kidnapped. My friend will help us. We will all go to the House of Shaws tonight.’

Mr. Rankeillor thought it was a good plan. But he did not want to see Alan Breck. In the end, he agreed to meet him. ‘I’ll call him Mr. Thomson,’ he said.

After dark that night, David and Mr. Rankeillor set out to meet Alan Breck. Mr. Rankeillor’s clerk went with them. Mr. Rankeillor was in high spirits. He kept making jokes. Suddenly he clapped a hand to his pocket.

‘I have forgotten my spectacles,’ he said. ‘Now I’ll be unable to see your friend!’

KIDNAPPED



David guessed that Mr. Rankeillor had forgotten his spectacles on purpose. Then if anybody asked him if he had seen Alan Breck, the Jacobite wanted for murder, he could say he had not seen him.

When they came near to the place where Alan was hiding, David whistled the tune. At once Alan stepped out of some bushes. He had kept his promise to wait, but he was cold and hungry.

DAVID SPEAKS TO MR. RANKEILLOR

Alan soon cheered up when he heard David's good news. He shook hands with Mr. Rankeillor, though he did not like being called Mr. Thomson.

David told him of their plan and asked him to help them. Alan was delighted, so they set off for the House of Shaws as fast as they could.



CHAPTER 18

The End of the Story

When they reached the House of Shaws, there was not a light to be seen anywhere. Alan walked boldly up to the front door and knocked loudly. Mr. Rankeillor, David, and the clerk stayed out of sight round the corner, where they could hear what was said.

After a long time, Uncle Ebenezer opened the upstairs window and shouted, 'Who is there?' He was carrying his gun.

'Who I am does not matter,' cried Alan. 'I have come to speak to you about David.'

'David!' cried Uncle Ebenezer in terror. 'You had better come inside.'

But Alan would not go into the house. Uncle Ebenezer came down and sat on the door-step, holding his gun.

'David was found by friends of mine after the shipwreck,' said Alan. 'He told them that you had paid Captain Hoseason to kidnap him. Do you still want him to be kept prisoner? Will you pay my friends to keep him?'

Uncle Ebenezer was too amazed to reply.

THE END OF THE STORY

'You paid Captain Hoseason, didn't you?' said Alan. 'How much did he get?' He pulled out his sword, as if he was ready to fight.

Terrified, Uncle Ebenezer said, 'I gave Hoseason twenty pounds. He would have got another twenty pounds when he sold David as a slave.'



KIDNAPPED



As soon as Uncle Ebenezer said this, Mr. Rankeillor stepped forward. He frowned and looked angry.

'I heard what you said, Mr. Balfour,' he said. 'So you paid Captain Hoseason to kidnap David and sell him as a slave? That is against the law.'

Uncle Ebenezer could not speak. He stared at the lawyer with his mouth open. David came forward and went up to his uncle.

'Good evening, Uncle Ebenezer,' he said. Uncle Ebenezer went on staring at them like a man turned to stone.

THE END OF THE STORY



Alan Breck took Uncle Ebenezer's gun away. Mr. Rankeillor led him into the house, and took him to a room where they could talk alone.

The clerk carried a basket of food. He went into the kitchen with David and Alan, and they all ate a good supper.

Soon Mr. Rankeillor came to tell them that Uncle Ebenezer had agreed to give David the House of Shaws and a share of his money. The clerk was told to copy out the agreement for Uncle Ebenezer to sign.

David was now a rich man.



They all stayed in the House of Shaws that night. David was very happy. His own troubles were over, yet he could not sleep.

Alan Breck was still in danger. He had been a good friend to David. Without him, David might never have got back to the House of Shaws.

David must find a way of helping Alan to escape to France.



Next morning, David had another talk with the lawyer. Mr. Rankeillor gave him a letter to a bank, so that he would be able to get some money.

'Your friend Mr. Thomson will know how to get to France,' Mr. Rankeillor said. 'You will be able to give him the money'.

He gave David another letter. This was to a lawyer who would help James Stewart of the Glens.

Mr. Rankeillor then said good-bye. He and his clerk went back to Queensferry.



Alan and David set off for Edinburgh. Uncle Ebenezer did not come to say good-bye, but they saw his night-cap at a window. He was watching them go away.

In Edinburgh, David was going to see a man who could be trusted to find a ship to take Alan to France. David would pay him. Alan was going to hide near Edinburgh until the ship was ready. He and David were going to meet at a certain place every day, so that David could tell him when the ship was ready to sail.

As they walked along, Alan and David talked about these plans. They knew that if Alan went to France, they might never see each other again. This made them feel very sad.

Outside the City of Edinburgh, Alan held out his left hand. 'Good-bye, David,' he said. They shook hands.

'Good-bye, Alan,' said David. He walked quickly down the hill to Edinburgh.



Notes

CHAPTER 1

adventure: an exciting happening.

in high spirits: feeling happy and excited.

CHAPTER 2

wisp of smoke: a thin thread of smoke.

furious: very angry indeed.

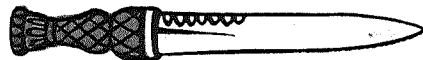
porridge: a food made of oatmeal boiled with water.

CHAPTER 3

miser: someone who loves money and hates spending it.

faint: to become so weak that you stop feeling, seeing, and hearing, and fall down.

dirk: a knife like a dagger, used by Highlanders.



NOTES

CHAPTER 4

cabin boy: a boy who works for the Captain and officers of a ship.

anchored: held from drifting by an anchor, a heavy hook on a long chain.

lawyer: a man who knows the laws of a country.

mate: an officer on a ship.

landlord of the inn: master of the inn.

unconscious: rather like being asleep; you become unconscious if you faint or get a hard knock on the head.

kidnapped: seized and taken away against your will.



CHAPTER 5

groan: make a low deep sound as if in pain.

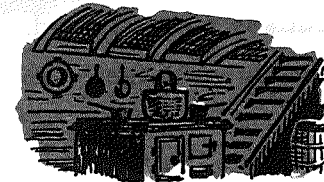
forecastle: part of a ship, where the sailors sleep and eat.

on watch: on the look-out to see that everything is all right.

round-house: a cabin on the deck of a ship, where the Captain and officers sleep and eat.

galley: a ship's kitchen.

ashamed: to be sorry you have done a bad or stupid thing.



NOTES
CHAPTER 6

fog: a thick mist.

stern: the back of a ship.

Highlander: someone who was born in the Highlands of Scotland.

guineas: gold coins worth 21 shillings

loch: a Scottish lake.

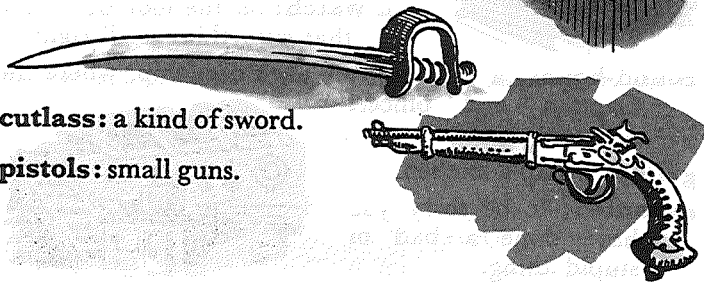
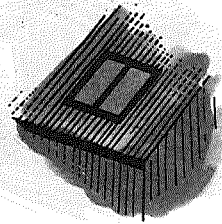
gasped: spoke while catching breath.

CHAPTER 7

skylight: a window in a roof.

cutlass: a kind of sword.

pistols: small guns.



NOTES
CHAPTER 8

tiller: a pole which is moved from side to side to steer a ship.

drifting: being driven by the wind and waves.

call a truce: say that you want to stop fighting.

crew: men who work a ship.

pilot: to guide a ship through dangerous waters.

clan: a very large family or tribe.

deserted: left, or ran away.

Jacobite: someone who thought that Bonnie Prince Charlie should have been King and not George I.

cunning: very clever, able to get your own way.

betray: to tell a secret and help an enemy.



CHAPTER 9

charts: maps of the sea and coast.

mast-head: top of the mast.

current: moving water.

NOTES

CHAPTER 10

marooned: left alone on an island and not able to get away.

shellfish: fish which live inside shells.

disappointed: unhappy because something you wanted did not happen.



direction: the way towards somewhere.

tide: the sea coming in and going out every twelve hours.

ferry boat: a boat that takes people across rivers or a narrow sea.

mainland: the nearest large piece of land to an island.

CHAPTER 11

panting: taking very short quick breaths, as you do after you have been running.

CHAPTER 12

seize: take hold of.

borrow: take something which you will give back.

could be trusted: one who is sure to do something.

NOTES

CHAPTER 13

posted sentries: put men to watch for an enemy.

twigs: very small branches of trees.

reward: something given in return for something done.



CHAPTER 14

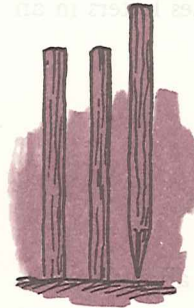
mist: rain falling in very tiny drops so close together that you can't see through it.

exhausted: very tired.

scold: speak angrily and tell someone he has done something wrong.

struggled on: walked with great difficulty.

stakes: strong sticks, pointed at one end.



CHAPTER 15

packs: the bundles in which David and Alan carried their food and clothes.

guide: a man who shows the way.

boldly: bravely.

dangerous: something which is not safe.

offered: said you would give or do something.

poster: a big advertisement, sometimes with a picture.



NOTES

CHAPTER 16

starve: to be without food and become hungry.

hire: to pay for the use of something, but not to buy it.

kept her word: did what she said she would do.

CHAPTER 17

wrecked: a ship is wrecked when it sinks, or is smashed against the rocks.

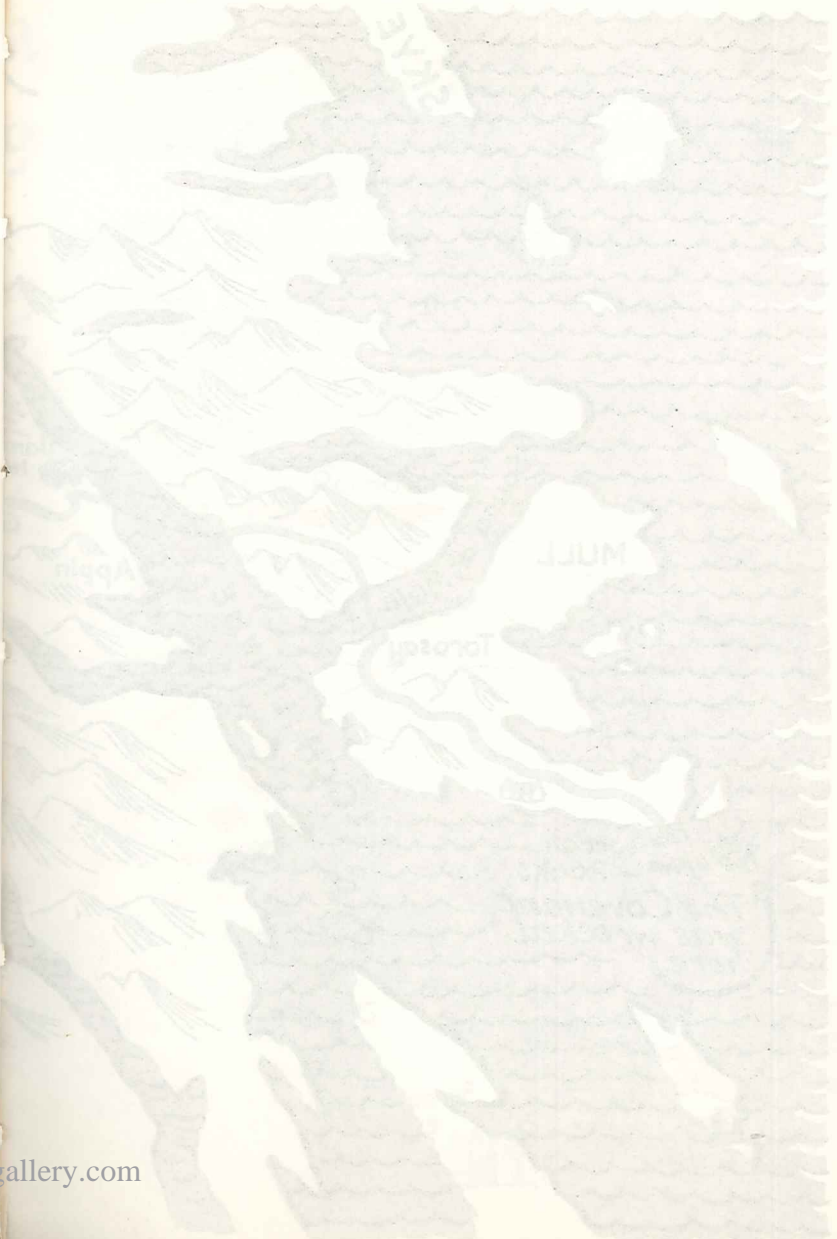
clerk: a man who keeps accounts, or copies letters in an office.

cheered up: became happier.

CHAPTER 18

against the law: something you are not allowed to do.

agreement: an understanding between people that something shall be done.



Map showing the course
of David Balfour's wanderings
through the hills
of Scotland

